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(54) Trunk piston engine lubrication

(57) A lubricant suitable for use in a trunk piston diesel engine characterised by a power output of 200 kW or greater. The trunk piston diesel engine may be for use in marine, power generation or rail traction applications. The lubricant comprises a basestock of lubricating viscosity, an overbased metal detergent, preferably having an ash content of at least 0.85% sulfated ash, and an

ashless or metal-free auxiliary additive comprising at least one of: an oil-soluble sulfurized alkylphenol, a phosphorosulfurized or sulfurized hydrocarbon, a sulfide of an oil, a fat or a polyolefin, or an amine phosphate.

Description

[0001] This invention relates to a lubricant suitable for use in a trunk piston diesel (compression-ignited) engine. Trunk piston diesel engines are used in marine, power generation and rail traction applications.

5 [0002] Trunk piston diesel engines are known for use in water-borne vessels, i.e. for so-called marine applications, including auxiliary power generation, and also for land-based applications such as power-generation. They may be characterised as medium-speed engines, e.g. in contrast to slow-speed cross-head engines requiring separate cylinder lubrication using a marine diesel cylinder lubricant.

10 [0003] Problems in the lubrication of trunk piston diesel engines may arise from the high temperatures to which the lubricant is subjected. For example, lubricating oil compositions, or lubricants, for trunk piston diesel engines (commonly referred to as trunk piston engine oils or TPEOs) may give non-optimal performance in their ability to resist formation of piston undercrown deposits.

15 [0004] The present invention provides a solution to the problem by using specific additives to enable the oil to resist the adverse effects of high temperature.

[0005] Thus, in a first aspect, the invention is a lubricant for use in a four-stroke trunk piston diesel engine, the lubricant comprising, or made by admixing:

(A) a base stock of lubricating viscosity, in a major amount;

20 (B) at least one overbased metal detergent, preferably having an ash content (as determined in accordance with ASTM D874) of at least 0.85% sulfated ash, in a minor amount; and

(C) at least one auxiliary ashless or metal-free additive component, in a minor amount, and that is different from (B), selected from:

25 (C1) an oil-soluble sulfurized alkylphenol, a phosphorosulfurized or sulfurized hydrocarbon, and a sulfide of an oil, a fat or a polyolefin, and/or
 (C2) an amine phosphate.

30 [0006] A second aspect of the invention is a method of lubricating a four-stroke trunk piston diesel engine for use in marine, power generation or rail traction, the engine having a power output of 200 or greater, such as 400 or greater, preferably 550 or greater, more preferably in the range of 600 to 100,000, kW, which method comprises supplying to the engine the lubricant defined above.

35 [0007] A third aspect of the invention is a method of raising the temperature of the onset of the hydrodynamic film in operation of a four-stroke trunk piston diesel engine for use in marine, power generation or rail traction, the engine having a power output of 200 or greater, such as 400 or greater, preferably 550 or greater, more preferably in the range of 600 to 100,000, kW, the method including the step of lubricating the engine with the lubricant defined above.

40 [0008] A fourth aspect of the invention is the use of additives (B) and (C) as defined above in a lubricant to suspend asphaltene components in the lubricant when used in a four-stroke trunk piston diesel engine in marine, power generation or rail traction, the engine having a power output of 200 or greater, such as 400 or greater, preferably 550 or greater, more preferably in the range of 600 to 100,000, kW.

45 [0009] The fourth aspect of the invention relates to a problem in use of TPEOs commonly referred to as "black paint" whereby they may become contaminated with asphaltene components from the fuel used, when a residual fuel, leading to cleanliness problems in service. Thus, the lubricant in the present invention may further comprise a fuel oil with a residual fuel content, in a minor amount.

50 [0010] Phenate-based detergents may benefit the high temperature performance of TPEOs; however their use limits the amount of salicylate-based detergent, necessary for meeting the above-mentioned "black paint" and other problems, that may be used. The present invention, by providing high temperature performance benefits other than arising from phenate use, enables more salicylate to be used as the detergent and thereby enables both high temperature performance and "black paint" control requirements to be met. In the invention therefore, the lubricant may be substantially free of phenate-based detergents and/or comprise salicylate as the sole type of detergent.

[0011] In this specification, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings ascribed below:

55 "major amount" - in excess of 50 mass % of the lubricant;

"minor amount" - less than 50 mass % of the lubricant, both in respect of the stated additive and in respect of the total mass % of all the additives present in the lubricant, reckoned as active ingredient of the additive or additives;

"active ingredient (a.i.)" refers to additive material that is not diluent.

"comprises or comprising, or cognate words" - specifies the presence of stated features, steps, integers or components, but does not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, steps, integers, components, or groups thereof;

"TBN" - Total Base Numbers as measured by ASTM D2896;

"oil-soluble or oil-dispersible" - do not necessarily indicate solubility, dissolvability, miscibility or capability of suppression in oil in all proportions. They do mean, however, solubility or stable dispersibility sufficient to exert the intended effect in the environment in which the oil is employed. Moreover, additional incorporation of other additives may permit incorporation of higher levels of a particular additive, if desired; it will be understood that the various components of the lubricant, essential as well as optimal and customary, may react under the conditions of formulation, storage or use and that the invention also provides the product obtainable or obtained as a result of any such reaction. The features of the invention will now be discussed in more detail as follows:

TRUNK PISTON DIESEL ENGINE

[0012] The trunk piston diesel engine may, for example, be a four-stroke trunk piston diesel engine suitable for use in marine, power generation or rail traction applications. The engines preferably have a power output of 200 or greater, such as 400 or greater, preferably 550 or greater, more preferably in the range of 600 to 100,000, kW. Further, the engines may, for example, have an engine speed in the range of from 200 to 2,000, preferably 400 to 1,000, rpm, and a brake horse-power (BHP) per cylinder of 50 to 10,000, preferably 100 to 7,000.

LUBRICANT

[0013] The lubricant may, for example, have a TBN in the range of from 25 to 100, such as from 25 or 30 to 60, to 55, preferably, 40, for example in the range of from 60 to 100. Preferably, the viscosity index of the lubricant is at least 90, more preferably at least 95, and at most 140 such as 120, preferably 110. A preferred viscosity index range is from 95 to 115.

[0014] The lubricant may, for example, have a kinematic viscosity at 100°C (as measured by ASTM D445) of at least 9, preferably at least 13, more preferably in the range from 14 to 24, for example from 14 to 22, mm²s⁻¹.

(A) BASE STOCK OF LUBRICATING VISCOSITY

[0015] The base stock is an oil of lubricating viscosity (sometimes referred to as base oil) and may be any oil suitable for the lubrication of a trunk piston engine. The lubricating oil may suitably be an animal, vegetable or a mineral oil. Suitably the lubricating oil is a petroleum derived lubricating oil, such as a naphthenic base, paraffinic base or mixed base oil. Alternatively, the lubricating oil may be a synthetic lubricating oil. Suitable synthetic lubricating oils include synthetic ester lubricating oils, which oils include diesters such as di-octyl adipate, di-octyl sebacate and tri-decyl adipate, or polymeric hydrocarbon lubricating oils, for example liquid polyisobutene and poly-alpha olefins. Commonly, a mineral oil is employed. The lubricating oil may generally comprise greater than 60, typically greater than 70%, by mass of the lubricant and typically have a kinematic viscosity at 100°C of from 2 to 40, for example from 3 to 15, mm²s⁻¹, and a viscosity index from 80 to 100, for example from 90 to 95.

[0016] Another class of lubricating oil is hydrocracked oils, where the refining process further breaks down the middle and heavy distillate fractions in the presence of hydrogen at high temperatures and moderate pressures. Hydrocracked oils typically have kinematic viscosity at 100°C of from 2 to 40, for example from 3 to 15, mm²s⁻¹ and a viscosity index typically in the range of from 100 to 110, for example from 105 to 108.

[0017] The term 'brightstock' as used herein refers to base oils which are solvent-extracted, de-asphalting products from vacuum residuum generally having a kinematic viscosity at 100°C from 28 to 36 mm²s⁻¹ and are typically used in a proportion of less than 30, preferably less than 20, more preferably less than 15, most preferably less than 10, such as less than 5, mass %, based on the mass of the lubricant.

(B) OVERBASED METAL DETERGENT

[0018] Overbased metal compounds suitable for use in the lubricant of the present invention include alkali metal and alkaline earth metal additives such as overbased oil-soluble or oil-dispersible calcium, magnesium, sodium or barium salts of a surfactant selected from phenol, sulfonic acid, carboxylic acid, salicylic acid and naphthenic acid, wherein

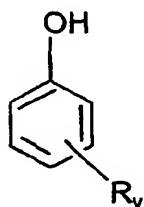
the overbasing is provided by an oil-insoluble salt of the metal, e.g. carbonate, basic carbonate, acetate, formate, hydroxide or oxalate, which is stabilised by the oil-soluble salt of the surfactant. The metal of the oil-soluble surfactant salt may be the same or different from that of the metal of the oil-insoluble salt. Preferably the metal, whether the metal of the oil-soluble or oil-insoluble salt, is calcium.

5 [0019] Preferably, the TBN of the or each of the overbased metal compounds is at least 100, such as at least 250 and up to 500.

10 [0020] Surfactants for the surfactant system of the overbased metal compounds preferably contain at least one hydrocarbyl group, for example, as a substituent on an aromatic ring. The term "hydrocarbyl" as used herein means that the group concerned is primarily composed of hydrogen and carbon atoms and is bonded to the remainder of the molecule via a carbon atom but does not exclude the presence of other atoms or groups in a proportion insufficient to detract from the substantially hydrocarbon characteristics of the group. Advantageously, hydrocarbyl groups in surfactants for use in accordance with the invention are aliphatic groups, preferably alkyl or alkylene groups, especially alkyl groups, which may be linear or branched. The total number of carbon atoms in the surfactants should be at least sufficient to impart the desired oil-solubility.

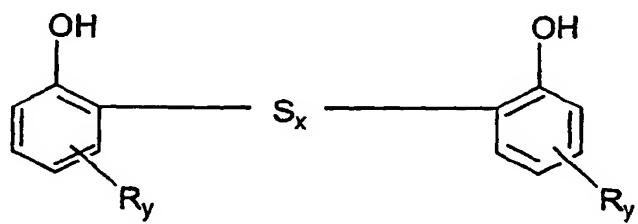
15 [0021] Phenols, for use in this invention, may be non-sulfurized or, preferably, sulfurized. Further, the term "phenol" as used herein includes phenols containing more than one hydroxyl group (for example, alkyl catechols) or fused aromatic rings (for example, alkyl naphthols) and phenols which have been modified by chemical reaction, for example, alkylene-bridged phenols and Mannich base-condensed phenols; and saligenin-type phenols (produced by the reaction of a phenol and an aldehyde under basic conditions).

20 [0022] Preferred phenols may be derived from the formula



where R represents a hydrocarbyl group and y represents 1 to 4. Where y is greater than 1, the hydrocarbyl groups may be the same or different.

35 [0023] The phenols are frequently used in sulfurized form. Sulfurized hydrocarbyl phenols may typically be represented by the formula:



where x is generally from 1 to 4. In some cases, more than two phenol molecules may be linked by S_x bridges.

50 [0024] In the above formulae, hydrocarbyl groups represented by R are advantageously alkyl groups, which advantageously contain 5 to 100, preferably 5 to 40, especially 9 to 12, carbon atoms, the average number of carbon atoms in all of the R groups being at least 9 in order to ensure adequate solubility in oil. Preferred alkyl groups are nonyl (tripropylene) groups.

[0025] In the following discussion, hydrocarbyl-substituted phenols will for convenience be referred to as alkyl phenols.

55 [0026] A sulfurizing agent for use in preparing a sulfurized phenol or phenate may be any compound or element which introduces -(S)_x- bridging groups between the alkyl phenol monomer groups, wherein x is generally from 1 to about 4. Thus, the reaction may be conducted with elemental sulfur or a halide thereof, for example, sulfur dichloride or, more preferably, sulfur monochloride. If elemental sulfur is used, the sulfurization reaction may be effected by heating the alkyl phenol compound at from 50 to 250, preferably at least 100, °C. The use of elemental sulfur will

typically yield a mixture of bridging groups -(S)x- as described above.

[0027] If a sulfur halide is used, the sulfurization reaction may be effected by treating the alkyl phenol at from -10 to 120, preferably at least 60, °C. The reaction may be conducted in the presence of a suitable diluent. The diluent advantageously comprises a substantially inert organic diluent, for example mineral oil or an alkane. In any event, the reaction is conducted for a period of time sufficient to effect substantial reaction. It is generally preferred to employ from 0.1 to 5 moles of the alkyl phenol material per equivalent of sulphurizing agent.

[0028] Where elemental sulfur is used as the sulfurizing agent, it may be desirable to use a basic catalyst, for example, sodium hydroxide or an organic amine, preferably a heterocyclic amine (e.g., morpholine).

[0029] Details of sulfurization processes are well known to those skilled in the art.

[0030] Regardless of the manner in which they are prepared, sulfurized alkyl phenols useful in preparing overbased metal compounds generally comprise diluent and unreacted alkyl phenols and generally contain from 2 to 20, preferably 4 to 14, and most preferably 6 to 12, mass % sulfur based on the mass of the sulfurized alkyl phenol.

[0031] As indicated above, the term "phenol" as used herein includes phenols that have been modified by chemical reaction with, for example, an aldehyde, and Mannich base-condensed phenols.

[0032] Aldehydes with which phenols may be modified include, for example, formaldehyde, propionaldehyde and butyraldehyde. The preferred aldehyde is formaldehyde. Aldehyde-modified phenols suitable for use are described in, for example, US-A-5 259 967.

[0033] Mannich base-condensed phenols are prepared by the reaction of a phenol, an aldehyde and an amine. Examples of suitable Mannich base-condensed phenols are described in GB-A-2 121 432.

[0034] In general, the phenols may include substituents other than those mentioned above provided that such substituents do not detract significantly from the surfactant properties of the phenols. Examples of such substituents are methoxy groups and halogen atoms.

[0035] Salicylic acids used in accordance with the invention may be non-sulfurized or sulfurized, and may be chemically modified and/or contain additional substituents, for example, as discussed above for phenols. Processes similar to those described above may also be used for sulfurizing a hydrocarbyl-substituted salicylic acid, and are well known to those skilled in the art. Salicylic acids are typically prepared by the carboxylation, by the Kolbe-Schmitt process, of phenoxydes, and in that case, will generally be obtained (normally in a diluent) in admixture with uncarboxylated phenol.

[0036] Preferred substituents in oil-soluble salicylic acids from which overbased detergents in accordance with the invention may be derived are the substituents represented by R in the above discussion of phenols. In alkyl-substituted salicylic acids, the alkyl groups advantageously contain 5 to 100, preferably 9 to 30, especially 14 to 20, carbon atoms.

[0037] Sulfonic acids used in accordance with the invention are typically obtained by sulfonation of hydrocarbyl-substituted, especially alkyl-substituted, aromatic hydrocarbons, for example, those obtained from the fractionation of petroleum by distillation and/or extraction, or by the alkylation of aromatic hydrocarbons. Examples include those obtained by alkylating benzene, toluene, xylene, naphthalene, biphenyl or their halogen derivatives, for example, chlorobenzene, chlorotoluene or chloronaphthalene. Alkylation of aromatic hydrocarbons may be carried out in the presence of a catalyst with alkylating agents having from 3 to more than 100 carbon atoms, such as, for example, haloparaffins, olefins that may be obtained by dehydrogenation of paraffins, and polyolefins, for example, polymers of ethylene, propylene, and/or butene. The alkylaryl sulphonic acids usually contain from 7 to 100 or more carbon atoms. They preferably contain from 16 to 80, or 12 to 40, carbon atoms per alkyl-substituted aromatic moiety, depending on the source from which they are obtained.

[0038] When neutralizing these alkylaryl sulfonic acids to provide sulfonates, hydrocarbon solvents and/or diluent oils may also be included in the reaction mixture, as well as promoters and viscosity control agents.

[0039] Another type of sulfonic acid that may be used in accordance with the invention comprises alkyl phenol sulfonic acids. Such sulfonic acids can be sulfurized. Whether sulfurized or non-sulfurized these sulfonic acids are believed to have surfactant properties comparable to those of sulfonic acids, rather than surfactant properties comparable to those of phenols.

[0040] Sulfonic acids suitable for use in accordance with the invention also include alkyl sulfonic acids, such as alkenyl sulfonic acids. In such compounds the alkyl group suitably contains 9 to 100, advantageously 12 to 80, especially 16 to 60, carbon atoms.

[0041] Carboxylic acids that may be used in accordance with the invention include mono- and dicarboxylic acids. Preferred monocarboxylic acids are those containing 1 to 30, especially 8 to 24, carbon atoms. (Where this specification indicates the number of carbon atoms in a carboxylic acid, the carbon atom(s) in the carboxylic group(s) is/are included in that number.) Examples of monocarboxylic acids are iso-octanoic acid, stearic acid, oleic acid, palmitic acid and behenic acid. Iso-octanoic acid may, if desired, be used in the form of the mixture of C₈ acid isomers sold by Exxon Chemicals under the trade name "Cekanoic". Other suitable acids are those with tertiary substitution at the α-carbon atom and dicarboxylic acids with more than 2 carbon atoms separating the carboxylic groups. Further, dicarboxylic acids with more than 35, for example, 36 to 100, carbon atoms are also suitable. Unsaturated carboxylic acids can be sulphurized. Although salicylic acids contain a carboxylic group, for the purposes of the present invention they are

considered to be a separate group of surfactants, and are not considered to be carboxylic acid surfactants. (Nor, although they contain a hydroxyl group, are they considered to be phenol surfactants.)

[0042] Examples of other surfactants which may be used in accordance with the invention include the following compounds, and derivatives thereof: naphthenic acids, especially naphthenic acids containing one or more alkyl groups, dialkylphosphonic acids, dialkylthiophosphonic acids, and dialkylidithiophosphoric acids, high molecular weight (preferably ethoxylated) alcohols, dithiocarbamic acids, thiophosphines, and dispersants. Surfactants of these types are well known to those skilled in the art. Surfactants of the hydrocarbyl-substituted carboxylalkylene-linked phenol type, or dihydrocarbyl esters of alkylene dicarboxylic acids, the alkylene group being substituted with a hydroxy group and an additional carboxylic acid group, or alkylene-linked polycyclic molecules, the aromatic moieties whereof comprise at least one hydrocarbyl-substituted phenol and at least one carboxy phenol, may also be suitable for use in the present invention; such surfactants are described in EP-A-708 171.

[0043] Further examples of detergents useful in the present invention are optionally sulfurized alkaline earth metal hydrocarbyl phenates that have been modified by carboxylic acids such as stearic acid, for examples as described in EP-A- 271 262 (LZ-Adibis); and phenolates as described in EP-A- 750 659 (Chevron).

[0044] Also suitable for use in the present invention are overbased metal compounds, preferably overbased calcium detergents, that contain at least two surfactant groups, such as phenol, sulfonic acid, carboxylic acid, salicylic acid and naphthenic acid, that may be obtained by manufacture of a hybrid material in which two or more different surfactant groups are incorporated during the overbasing process.

[0045] Examples of hybrid materials are an overbased calcium salt of surfactants phenol and sulfonic acid; an overbased calcium salt of surfactants phenol and carboxylic acid; an overbased calcium salt of surfactants phenol, sulfonic acid and salicylic acid; and an overbased calcium salt of surfactants phenol and salicylic acid.

[0046] By an "overbased calcium salt of surfactants" is meant an overbased detergent in which the metal cations of the oil-insoluble metal salt are essentially calcium cations. Small amounts of other cations may be present in the oil-insoluble metal salt, but typically at least 80, more typically at least 90, for example at least 95, mole %, of the cations in the oil-insoluble metal salt, are calcium ions. Cations other than calcium may be derived, for example, from the use in the manufacture of the overbased detergent of a surfactant salt in which the cation is a metal other than calcium. Preferably, the metal salt of the surfactant is also calcium.

[0047] Preferably, the TBN of the overbased metal detergent is at least 330, such as at least 350, more preferably at least 400, most preferably in the range of from 400 to 600, such as up to 500.

[0048] In the instance where at least two overbased metal compounds are present, any suitable proportions by mass may be used, preferably the mass to mass proportion of any one overbased metal compound to any other metal overbased compound is in the range of from 5:95 to 95:5; such as from 90:10 to 10:90; more preferably from 20:80 to 80:20; especially from 70:30 to 30:70; advantageously from 60:40 to 40:60.

[0049] Particular examples of hybrid materials include, for example, those described in WO-A- 97/46643; WO-A- 97/46644; WO-A- 97/46645; WO-A- 97/46646; and WO-A- 97/46647.

[0050] Typically, the amount of overbased metal compound in the lubricant is at least 0.5, particularly in the range of from 0.5 to 20, such as from 3 to 12 or 2 to 7, mass % based on active ingredient per mass of lubricant.

[0051] The overbased metal compounds of the present invention may be borated, and typically the boron contributing compound, e.g the metal borate, is considered to form part of the overbasing. In the instance where a borated overbased metal compound is used in the present invention, the use of a borated dispersant and/or an oil-soluble or oil-dispersible boron compound may, or may not, be necessary provided the lubricant composition comprising the borated overbased metal compound has a viscosity index and TBN as defined herein. For the purpose of avoidance of doubt, non-borated dispersants are not excluded in the present invention in combination with a borated overbased metal compound.

[0052] The overbased metal compounds preferably have a sulfated ash content (as determined by ASTM D874) of at least 0.85%, more preferably at least 1.0% and even more preferably at least 1.2%.

(C) AUXILIARY ADDITIVE COMPONENT

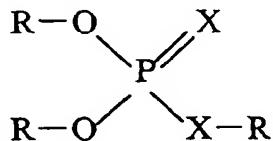
[0053] As stated, such components are "ashless" by which is meant that it is a non-metallic organic material that forms substantially no ash on combustion, in contrast to metal-containing and hence, ash forming compounds.

[0054] The auxiliary additive component (C1) may be selected from: oil-soluble sulfurized alkylphenols, phosphoro-sulfurized or sulfurized hydrocarbons, and sulfides of oils, fats or polyolefins, preferably in which a sulfur group having two or more sulfur atoms is adjoined and bounded together in a molecular structure. Examples include sulfurized sperm oil, sulfurized pinene oil, sulfurized soybean oil, sulfurized polyolefin, sulfurized esters, dialkyl disulfide, dialkyl polysulfide, dibenzyl disulfide, ditertiary butyl disulfide, polyolefin polysulfide, and thiadiazole type compounds such as bis-alkyl polysulfide thiadiazole. Such compounds fall within the component (C1) according to the present invention.

[0055] Component (C2) according to the present invention is an amine phosphate, which preferably includes the neutralisation or partial neutralisation products of acidic phosphorus-containing intermediates and amines. The acidic

intermediates are preferably formed from a hydroxy-substituted triester of a phosphorothioic acid with an inorganic phosphorus reagent selected from the group consisting of phosphorus acids, phosphorus oxides, and phosphorus halides. Thus, the amine phosphates may, for example, be amine dithiophosphates.

[0056] The hydroxy-substituted triesters of phosphorothioic acids include principally those having the structural formula



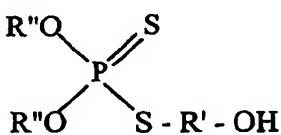
in which R is selected from the class consisting of substantially hydrocarbon radicals and hydroxy-substituted substantially hydrocarbon radicals, at least one of the R radicals being a hydroxy-substituted substantially hydrocarbon radical, and X is selected from the class consisting of sulphur and oxygen, at least one of the X radicals being sulphur. The substantially hydrocarbon radicals include aromatic, aliphatic, and cycloaliphatic radicals such as aryl, alkyl, aralkyl, alkaryl, and cycloalkyl radicals. Such radicals may contain a polar substituent such as chloro, bromo, iodo, alkoxy, anoxy, nitro, keto, or aldehyde group. In most instances there should be no more than one such polar group in a radical.

[0057] Specific examples of the substantially hydrocarbon radical are methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, secondary-butyl, iso-butyl, n-pentyl, dodecyl, polyisobutene radical (molecular weight of 1500), cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, 2-heptyl-cyclohexyl, phenyl, naphthyl, xenyl, p-heptylphenyl, 2,6-di-tertiary-butylphenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, 3,5-dodecylphenyl, chlorophenyl, alpha-methoxy-beta-naphthyl, p-nitrophenyl, p-phenoxyphenyl, 2-bromomethyl, 3-chlorocyclohexyl, and polypropylene (molecular weight of 300)-substituted phenyl radical.

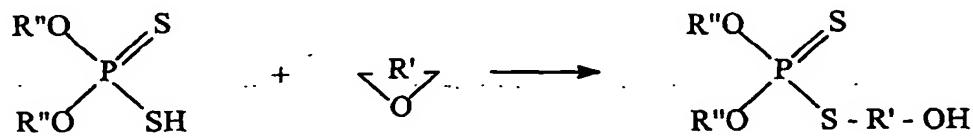
[0058] The hydroxy-substituted substantially hydrocarbon radicals include principally the above-illustrated substantially hydrocarbon radicals containing a hydroxy group. Those having less than 8 carbon atoms are preferred because of the convenience in preparing such hydroxy-substituted triesters. Examples of such radicals are hydroxymethyl, hydroxyethyl, 2-hydroxypropyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, 2-hydroxycyclohexyl, 2-hydroxycyclopentyl, 2-hydroxy-1-octyl, 1-hydroxy-3-octyl, 1-hydroxy-2-octyl, 2-hydroxy-3-phenyl-cyclohexyl, 1-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl, 2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl, 2-hydroxy-1-p-tolylethyl, and 2-hydroxy-3-butyl radicals.

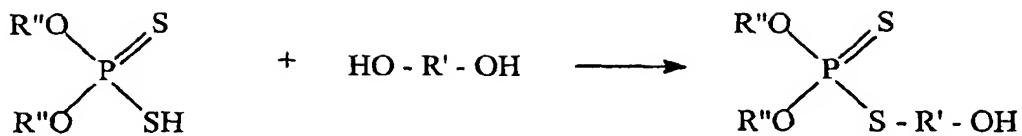
[0059] Other hydroxy-substituted substantially hydrocarbon radicals are exemplified by 2,5-dihydroxyphenyl, alpha-hydroxy-beta-naphthyl, 3-hydroxy-4-dodecyl, 3-hydroxy-6-octadecyl, and p-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-phenyl radicals.

[0060] A preferred class of the hydroxy-substituted triesters comprises those having the structural formula



in which R" is a substantially hydrocarbon radical illustrated above and R' is a bivalent substantially hydrocarbon radical such as alkylene or arylene radicals derived from the previously illustrated substantially hydrocarbon radicals. A convenient method for preparing such esters involves the reaction of a phosphorodithioic acid with an epoxide or a glycol. Such reaction is known in the art. The following equations are illustrative of the reaction.





10 in which



15

is an epoxide and HO - R' - OH is a glycol. For reasons of economy, aliphatic epoxides having less than about 8 carbon atoms and styrene oxides are preferred for use in the above process. Especially useful epoxides are exemplified by ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, styrene oxide, alphamethylstyrene oxide, p-methylstyrene oxide, cyclohexene oxide, cyclopentene oxide, dodecene oxide, octadecene oxide, 2,3-butene oxide, 1,2-butene oxide, 1,2-octene oxide, 3,4-pentene oxide, and 4-phenyl-1,2-cyclohexene oxide. Glycols include both aliphatic and aromatic di-hydroxy compounds. The latter are exemplified by hydroquinone, catechol, resorcinol, and 1,2-dihydroxynaphthalene. Aliphatic glycols are especially useful such as ethylene glycol, trimethylene glycol, tetramethylene glycol, decamethylene glycol, di-ethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, and pentaethylene glycol.

20 [0061] Another convenient method for preparing the hydroxy-substituted triesters comprises the addition of a phosphorodithioic acid to an unsaturated alcohol such as allyl alcohol, cinnamyl alcohol, or oleyl alcohol such as is described in US-A-2,528,723. Still another method involves the reaction of a metal phosphorothiate with a halogen-substituted alcohol described in US RE-A- 20,411.

25 [0062] The phosphorodithioic acids from which the hydroxy-substituted triesters can be derived are likewise well-known. They are prepared by the reaction of phosphorus pentasulfide with an alcohol or a phenol. The reaction involves 30 4 moles of the alcohol or phenol per mole of phosphorus pentasulfide and may be carried out within the temperature range from about 50°C to 200°C. Thus, the preparation of O,O'-di-n-hexylphosphorodithioic acid involves the reaction of phosphorus pentasulfide with 4 moles of n-hexyl alcohol at 100°C for 2 hours. Hydrogen sulfide is liberated and the residue is the defined acid. The preparation of the phosphoromonothioic acid may be effected by treatment of corresponding phosphorodithioic acid with steam. Phosphorotrithioic acids and phosphorotetrathioic acids can be obtained 35 by the reaction of phosphorus pentasulfide with mercaptans or mixtures of mercaptans and alcohols.

40 [0063] The reaction of phosphorus pentasulfide with a mixture of phenols or alcohols (e.g., isobutanol and n-hexanol in 2:1 weight ratio) results in phosphorodithioic acids in which the two organic radicals are different. Such acids likewise 45 are useful herein.

[0064] The inorganic phosphorus reagent useful in the reaction with the hydroxy-substituted triesters of phosphorothioic acids is preferably phosphorus pentoxide. Other phosphorus oxides such as phosphorus trioxide and phosphorus tetroxide likewise are useful. Also useful are phosphorus acids, and phosphorus halides. They are exemplified by phosphoric acid, pyrophosphoric acid, metaphosphoric acid, hypophosphoric acid, phosphorous acid, pyrophosphorous acid, metaphosphorous acid, hypophosphorous acid, phosphorous trichloride, phosphorus tribromide, phosphorous pentachloride, monobromophosphorus tetrachloride, phosphorus oxychloride, and phosphorus triiodide.

50 [0065] The reaction of the hydroxy-substituted triesters of phosphorothioic acids with the inorganic phosphorus reagent results in an acidic product. The chemical constitution of the acidic product depends to a large measure on the nature of the inorganic phosphorus reagent used. In most instances the product is a complex mixture the precise composition of which is not known. It is known, however, that the reaction involves the hydroxy radical of the triester with the inorganic phosphorus reagent. In this respect the reaction may be likened to that of an alcohol or a phenol with the inorganic phosphorus reagent. Thus, the reaction of the hydroxy-substituted triester with phosphorus pentoxide is believed to result principally in acidic phosphates, i.e., mono- or di-esters of phosphoric acid in which the ester radical is the residue obtained by the removal of the hydroxy radical of the phosphorothioic triester reactant. The product may also contain phosphonic acids and phosphinic acids in which one or two direct carbon-to-phosphorus linkages are present.

55 [0066] The acidic product of the reaction between the hydroxy-substituted triester with phosphorus oxyhalide or phosphoric acid is believed to result in similar mixtures of acidic phosphates, phosphonic acids, and/or phosphinic acids. On the other hand, the reaction of the hydroxy-substituted triester with phosphorus trichloride or phosphorus acid is believed to result principally in acidic organic phosphites. Still other products may be obtained from the use of

other inorganic phosphorus reagents illustrated previously. In any event, the product is acidic and as such is useful as the intermediate for the preparation of the neutralized products useful in invention.

[0067] Usually, from 2 moles to 5 moles of the triester is used for each mole of the inorganic phosphorus reagent. The preferred proportion of the triester is about 3-4 moles for each mole of the phosphorus reagent. The use of amounts of either reactant outside the limits indicated here results in excessive unused amounts of the reactant and is ordinarily not preferred.

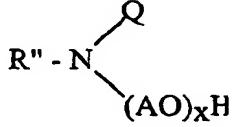
[0068] The reaction of the hydroxy-substituted triester with the inorganic phosphorus reagent to produce the acidic intermediate can be effected simply by mixing the two reactants at a temperature above about room temperature, preferably above 50° C. A higher temperature such as 100°C or 150°C may be used but ordinarily is unnecessary.

[0069] The amines useful for neutralizing the acidic intermediate may be aliphatic amines, aromatic amines, cycloaliphatic amines, heterocyclic amines, or carbocyclic amines. Amines having from 4 to 30 aliphatic carbon atoms are preferred and aliphatic primary amines containing at least 8 carbon atoms and having the formula, $R'' - NH_2$, where R'' is, for example, an aliphatic radical such as tert-octyl, tert-dodecyl, tert-tetradecyl, tert-octadecyl, cetyl, behenyl, stearyl, eicosyl, docosyl, tetracosyl, hexatriacontanyl, and pentahexadecyl, are especially useful. Examples of other aliphatic amines include cyclohexyl amine, n-hexylamine, dodecylamine, di-dodecylamine, tridodecylamine, N-methyl-octylamine, butylamine, behenylamine, stearyl amine, oleyl amine, myristyl amine, and N-dodecyl trimethylene diamine, aniline, o-toluidine, benzidine, phenylene diamine, N,N'-di-sec-butylphenylene diamine, beta-naphthylamine, alpha-naphthylamine, morpholine, piperazine, methane diamine, cyclopentyl amine, ethylene diamine, hexamethylene tetramine, octamethylene diamine, and N,N'-dibutyl-phenylene diamine. Also useful are hydroxy-substituted amines such as ethanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, isopropanolamine, para-aminophenol, 4-amino-naphthol-1, 8-amino-naphthol-1, beta-aminoalizarin, 2-amino-2-ethyl-1,3-propandiol, 4-amino-4'-hydroxy-diphenyl ether, 2-amino-resorcinol, etc.

[0070] Of the various available hydroxy-substituted amines that can be employed, a preference is expressed for hydroxy-substituted aliphatic amines, particularly those that conform for the most part to the formula

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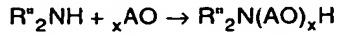
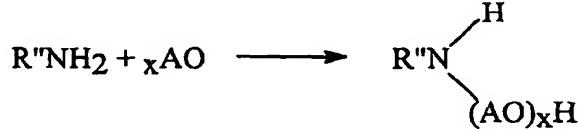
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in which R'' is as previously defined; A is a lower alkylene radical such as methylene, ethylene, propylene-1,2, tri-methylene, butylene-1,2, tetramethylene, amylene-1,3, pentamethylene, etc.; x is 1-10, inclusive; and Q is hydrogen, $(AO)_x H$, or R'' . The use of such hydroxy-substituted aliphatic amines in many instances imparts improved rust-inhibiting characteristics. Examples of such preferred hydroxy-substituted aliphatic amines include N-4-hydroxybutyl-dodecyl amine, N-2-hydroxyethyl-n-octylamine, N-2-hydroxypropyl dinonylamine, N,N-di-(3-hydroxypropyl)-tert-dodecyl amine, N-hydroxytriethyl-oxyethyl-tert-tetradecyl amine, N-2-hydroxyethyl-tert-dodecyl amine, N-hydroxyhexa-propoxypropyl-tert-octadecyl amine, N-5-hydroxypentyl di-n-decyl amine, etc. A convenient and economical method for the preparation of such hydroxy-substituted aliphatic amines involves the known reaction of an aliphatic primary or secondary amine with at least about an equimolecular amount of an epoxide, preferably in the presence of a suitable catalyst such as sodium methoxide, sodamide, sodium metal, etc.

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[0071] In the above formulae, R'' , x and A are as previously defined. A particular preference is expressed for N-monohydroxyalkyl substituted mono-tertiary-alkyl amines of the formula $tert-R - NHAOH$, wherein $tert-R$ is a tertiary-alkyl radical containing from 11 to 24 carbon atoms. In lieu of a single compound of the formula $tert-R - NHAOH$, it is

often convenient and desirable to use a mixture of such compounds prepared, for example, by the reaction of an epoxide, such as ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, or butylene oxide, with a commercial mixture of tertiary-alkyl primary amines such as C₁₁-C₁₄ tertiary-alkyl primary amines, C₁₃-C₂₂ tertiary-alkyl primary amines, etc.

[0072] The neutralization of the acidic intermediate with the amine is in most instances exothermic and can be carried out simply by mixing the reactants at ordinary temperatures, preferably from 0°C to 200°C. The chemical constitution of the neutralized product of the reaction depends to a large extent upon the temperature. Thus, at a relatively low temperature, such as less than 80°C, the product comprises predominantly a salt of the amine with the acid. At a temperature above 100°C, the product may contain amides, amidines, or mixtures thereof. However, the reaction of the acidic intermediate with a tertiary amine results only in a salt.

[0073] The relative proportions of the acidic intermediate and the amines used in the reaction are preferably such that a substantial portion of the acidic intermediate is neutralized. The lower limit as to the amount of amine used in the reaction is based primarily upon a consideration of the utility of the product formed. In most instances, enough amine should be used as to neutralize at least 50% of the acidity of the intermediate. For use as additives in hydrocarbon oils, substantially neutral products such as are obtained by neutralization of at least 90% of the acidity of the intermediate are desirable. Thus the amount of the amine used may vary within wide ranges depending upon the acidity desired in the product and also upon the acidity of the intermediate as determined by, for example, ASTM procedure designation D-664 or D-974.

[0074] A particularly preferred amine phosphate is when the acidic intermediate is derived from the reaction of P₂O₅ with hydroxypropyl O,O-di(4-methyl-2-pentyl) phosphorodithioate. This acidic intermediate may then be neutralised or partially neutralised with a C₁₂ to C₁₄ tertiary aliphatic primary amine. An example of such an amine may be commercially purchased under the trade name of Primene 81R.

[0075] The preferred component (C1) is an oil-soluble sulfurized alkylphenol. The preferred component (C2) is an amine dithiophosphate.

[0076] Component (C1) may, for example, be present in the lubricant in an amount of at least 0.1, preferably at least 0.3, 0.5, 1.5 or 2, and preferably up to 20, 15, 10, 8, 5 mass %; and component (C2) may, for example, be present in the lubricant in an amount of at least 0.1, for example up to 10, preferably in the range of 0.4 to 5, or more preferably 0.6 to 2, mass %.

CO-ADDITIONS

[0077] The lubricants may include an antiwear agent as a co-additive and may also contain other co-additives, for example, antioxidants, antifoaming agents and/or rust inhibitors. Further details of particular co-additives are as follows.

[0078] Oxidation inhibitors, or antioxidants, reduce the tendency of mineral oils to deteriorate in service, evidence of such deterioration being, for example, the production of varnish-like deposits on metal surfaces and of sludge, and viscosity increase. Suitable oxidation inhibitors include sulphurized alkyl phenols and alkali or alkaline earth metal salts thereof; diphenylamines; phenyl-naphthylamines; and phosphosulphurized or sulphurized hydrocarbons.

[0079] Other oxidation inhibitors or antioxidants that may be used in the lubricant comprise oil-soluble copper compounds. The copper may be blended therein as any suitable oil-soluble copper compound. By oil-soluble is meant that the compound is oil-soluble under normal blending conditions in the base stock or an additive package. The copper may, for example, be in the form of a copper dihydrocarbyl thio- or dithio-phosphate. Alternatively, the copper may be added as the copper salt of a synthetic or natural carboxylic acid, for example, a C₈ to C₁₈ fatty acid, an unsaturated acid, or a branched carboxylic acid. Also useful are oil-soluble copper dithiocarbamates, sulphonates, phenates, and acetylacetones. Examples of particularly useful copper compounds are basic, neutral or acidic copper Cu I and/or Cu II salts derived from alkenyl succinic acids or anhydrides.

[0080] Additional detergents and metal rust inhibitors include the metal salts, which may be overbased and have a TBN less than 300, of sulphonic acids, alkyl phenols, sulphurized alkyl phenols, alkyl salicylic acids, thiophosphonic acids, naphthenic acids, and other oil-soluble mono- and dicarboxylic acids. Representative examples of detergents/rust inhibitors, and their methods of preparation, are given in EP-A-208 560. In the case of metal salts of salicylic acids, the TBN of the metal salts may be less than 200.

[0081] Antiwear agents, as their name implies, reduce wear of metal parts. Zinc dihydrocarbyl dithiophosphates (ZDDPs) are very widely used as antiwear agents. Especially preferred ZDDPs are those of the formula Zn[SP(S)(OR₁)(OR₂)₂] wherein R₁ and R₂ represent hydrocarbyl groups such as alkyl groups that contain from 1 to 18, preferably 2 to 12, carbon atoms.

[0082] Pour point depressants, otherwise known as lube oil flow improvers, lower the minimum temperature at which the fluid will flow or can be poured. Such additives are well known. Foam control may be provided by an antifoamant of the polysiloxane type, for example, silicone oil or polydimethyl siloxane.

PROPORTIONS

[0083] Typical proportions for additives for a TPEO (a trunk piston engine oil), additional to additives (C) of this invention, are as follows:

	Additive	Mass % a.i.* (Broad)	Mass % a.i.* (Preferred)
10	Detergent(s)	0.5-15	2-7
	Dispersant(s)	0.5-5	1-3
15	Anti-wear agent(s)	0.1-1.5	0.3-1.3
	Anti-oxidant	0.1-3	0.5-1.5
	Rust Inhibitor	0.03-0.15	0.05-0.1
	Pour point depressant	0.03-0.15	0.05-0.1
	Mineral or synthetic base oil	Balance	Balance

* Mass % active ingredient based on the final oil.
Stabilisers and/or rust inhibitors may also be included.

[0084] When a plurality of additives is employed it may be desirable, although not essential, to prepare one or more additive packages or concentrates comprising the additives, whereby several additives can be added simultaneously to the base stock to form the lubricant. Dissolution of the additive package(s) into the base stock may be facilitated by solvents and by mixing accompanied with mild heating, but this is not essential. The additive package(s) will typically be formulated to contain the additive(s) in proper amounts to provide the desired concentration, and/or to carry out the intended function, in the final lubricant when the additive package(s) is/are combined with a predetermined amount of base stock. Thus, components (B) and (C) in accordance with the present invention may be admixed with small amounts of base stock or other compatible solvents together with other desirable additives to form additive packages containing active ingredients in an amount, based on the additive package, of, for example, from 2.5 to 90 and preferably from 5 to 75 and most preferably from 8 to 60, mass %, with the remainder being base stock.

[0085] The final lubricant may typically contain about 5 to 40 mass % of the additive package(s), including diluent, with the remainder being base stock.

EXAMPLES

[0086] The invention is illustrated by, but in no way limited to, the following examples, in which reference will be made to the accompanying drawings, identified as Figures 1, 2 and 3. Each figure (1 to 3) represents, as the results of an HFRR test to be described below, a trace in graphical form where the x-axis represents temperature in °C and the y-axis represents coefficient of friction.

COMPONENTS

[0087] The components used in the examples were as follows:

Overbased metal detergent

[0088]

B₁: an overbased calcium salicylate having a TBN of 281
B₂: an overbased calcium salicylate having a TBN of 168
B₃: an overbased calcium salicylate having a TBN of 350

Auxiliary additive component

[0089]

C₁: a sulfurized alkylphenol additive characterised by an a.i. of about 70% and a sulfur content of 6.4 mass %.
C₂: an amine dithiophosphate gear oil additive characterised by an a.i. of 75% and a phosphorus content of 7.2%,

a sulfur content of 8.7%, and a nitrogen content of 1.2% (all mass).

Stabilisers

5 [0090]

D₁: a maleic anhydride substituted with a polyisobutene to give a polyisobutene succinic anhydride

10 Antioxidant

10 [0091]

E₁: an alkylated diphenylamine

15 Basestock

15 [0092]

A₁: a paraffinic mineral oil also containing a brightstock.

20 A₂: a Group 1 base oil

[0093] Other components, as required, such as rust inhibitors were used.

25 LUBRICANTS AND TESTS

[0094] A first sample of TPEO was prepared by admixing with the basestock A₁, the detergent B₁ and the stabiliser D₁. This was a comparison sample and is designated as SAMPLE Z. Second and third samples of TPEO's were prepared by admixing with the basestock A₁, the detergent B₁ and the stabiliser D₁, in the same proportions as in SAMPLE Z, and also compound C₁ (3 mass % based on the lubricant mass) in the second sample and compound C₂ (0.8 mass % based on the lubricant mass) in the third sample. The second and third samples are examples included in the invention and are designated as SAMPLES 1 and 2 respectively.

[0095] The admixing was carried out by blending the components and the basestock at 60°C for one hour.

[0096] Each sample was tested in a High Frequency Reciprocating Rig (HFRR) whereby friction coefficient was measured as a function of temperature in the temperature range from 80 to 350°C. This test is designed to examine the ability of an oil to maintain lubrication at elevated temperatures. It involves lubricating a stationary specimen with the test oil while subjecting it to a moving specimen under an applied load. The temperature is steadily raised from 80 to 350°C in 15 minutes. The moving specimen has a frequency of 20 HZ and an applied load of 400 g. Data are logged every 5 seconds.

40 RESULTS

[0097] Sample Z: the results are shown in Figure 1, from which it is seen that the friction coefficient fell from about 0.16 at 75°C to about 0.1 at around 200°C, and fell, less steeply, to about 0.08 at around 280°C. Above 280°C, the coefficient arose steeply to about 0.25 or above and remained on or about 0.25 up to 350°C.

[0098] Sample 1: the results are shown in Figure 2, from which it is seen that the friction coefficient remained on or about 0.15 from 75°C to 190°C and fell to about 0.1 at 200°C. It remained just above, or about, 0.1 from 200 to 325°C. The coefficient rose at 325 to 350°C, but not exceeding 0.15.

[0099] Sample 2: the results are shown in Figure 3, from which it is seen that the friction coefficient fell steadily from 0.16 at 75°C to about 0.06 at 300°C. From 325 to 350°C, it rose but was never greater than 0.1.

[0100] The above test results are a clear indication of the efficiency of Samples 1 and 2 as lubricants thereof. Thus, they did not give rise to a significant increase in mechanical wear, as indicated by friction coefficient, at temperatures above 270°C.

55 OTHER TESTS

[0101] Additional TPEO samples, included in the invention, designated as SAMPLES X and Y were prepared each to a TBN of 33 as generally described above. Each sample was tested in the HFRR as described above and also in the Komatsu Hot Tube test at 320°C which is known and accepted in the art. The constitution of the samples and the

test results are summarised in the Table below

COMPONENT:	SAMPLE			
	X	3	Y	4
B ₂	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
B ₃	8.57	8.57	8.57	8.57
E ₁			0.75	0.75
C ₁		0.75		0.75
A ₂	89.43	88.68	88.68	87.93
HFRR RESULTS				
Minimum friction coefficient at temperature (°C)	0.051 280	0.056 307	0.060 247	0.056 295
Increase of friction coefficient (%)	194	71	218	54
KOMATSU HOT TUBE RESULTS				
Visual rating	0	3	0	1.5
Weight of deposit (mg)	14.4	5.6	47.9	7.7

[0102] It is therefore seen that SAMPLES 3 and 4 (of the invention) gave much better results at high temperatures than SAMPLES X and Y.

Claims

1. A lubricant for use in a trunk piston diesel engine, the lubricant comprising, or made by admixing,
 - (A) a base stock of lubricating viscosity, in a major amount;
 - (B) at least one overbased metal detergent, preferably having an ash content of at least 0.85% sulfated ash, in a minor amount;
 - (C) at least one auxiliary, ashless or metal-free additive component in a minor amount, and that is different from (B), selected from:
 - (C1) an oil-soluble sulfurized alkylphenol, a phosphorosulfurized or sulfurized hydrocarbon, and a sulfide of an oil, a fat or a polyolefin, and/or
 - (C2) an amine phosphate.
2. The lubricant as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metal in the overbased metal detergent is calcium.
3. The lubricant as claimed in claims 1 or 2, wherein the overbased metal detergent is calcium salicylate.
4. The lubricant as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the sulfurized alkylphenol is an alkylphenol sulfide.
5. The lubricant as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein (C1) is present in the lubricant in an amount of at least 0.1, preferably at least 0.3, and preferably in an amount up to 20 mass %.
6. The lubricant as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein (C2) is in the form of an amine dithiophosphate.
7. The lubricant as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein (C2) is present in the lubricant in an amount of at least 0.1, preferably up to 10, more preferably in the range of 0.4 to 5, and even more preferably in the range of 0.6 to 2, mass %.
8. The lubricant as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the lubricant further comprises a fuel oil with a residual fuel content, in a minor amount.

9. The lubricant as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the lubricant is substantially phenate detergent-free.

5 10. A method of lubricating a four-stroke trunk piston diesel engine for use in marine, power generation or rail traction, the engine having a power output of 200 or greater, such as 400 or greater, preferably 550 or greater, more preferably in the range of 600 to 100,000, kW, which method comprises supplying to the engine a lubricant as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9.

10 11. A method of raising the temperature of the onset of the hydrodynamic film in operation of a four-stroke trunk piston diesel engine for use in marine, power generation or rail traction, the engine having a power output of 200 or greater, such as 400 or greater, preferably 550 or greater, more preferably in the range of 600 to 100,000, kW, the method including the step of lubricating the engine with the lubricant as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9.

15 12. The use of additives (B) and (C) as defined in any of claims 1 to 6 in a lubricant as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9 to suspend asphaltene components in the lubricant when used in an engine having a power output of 200 or greater, such as 400 or greater, preferably 550 or greater, more preferably in the range of 600 to 100,000, kW.

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Fig. 1.

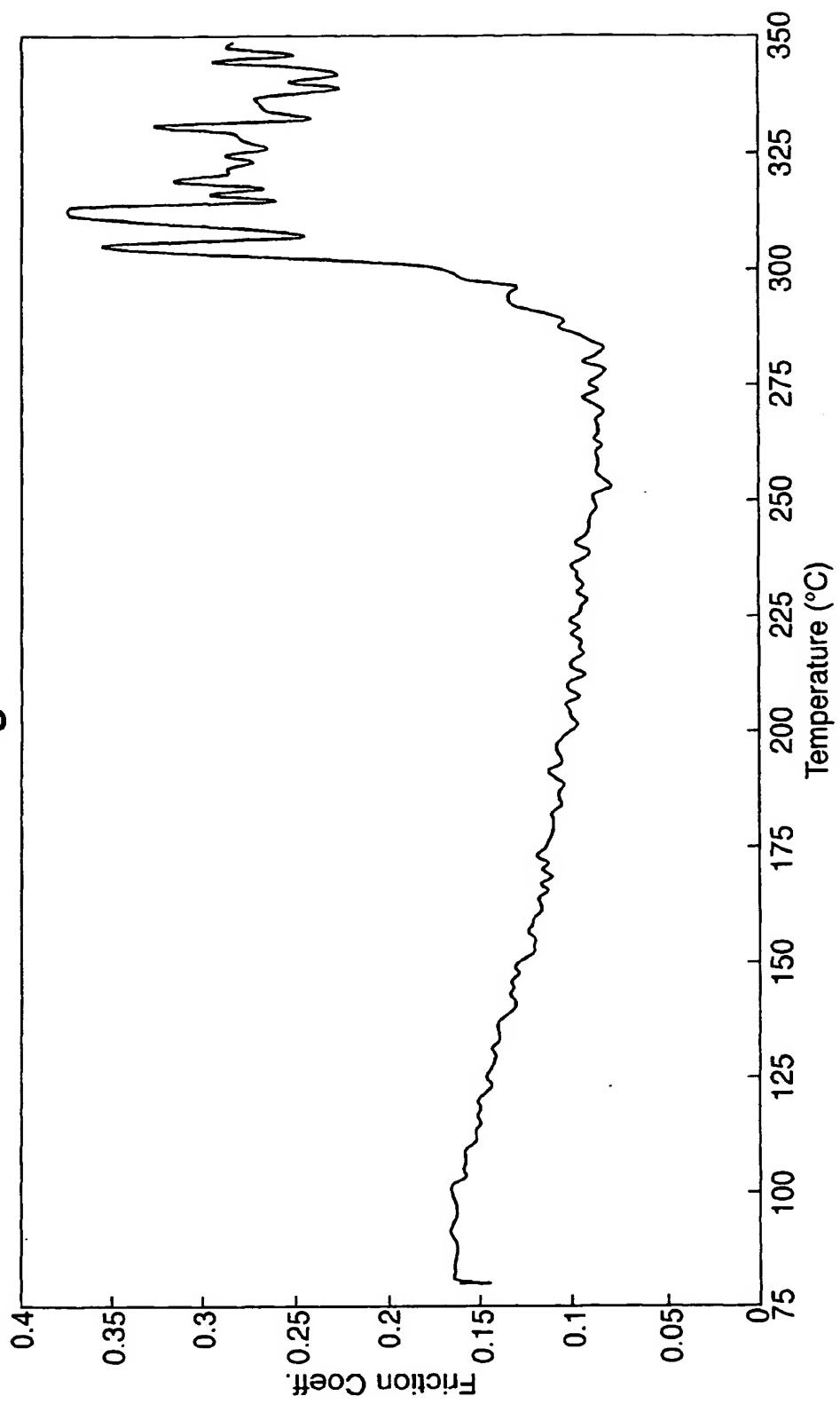


Fig.2.

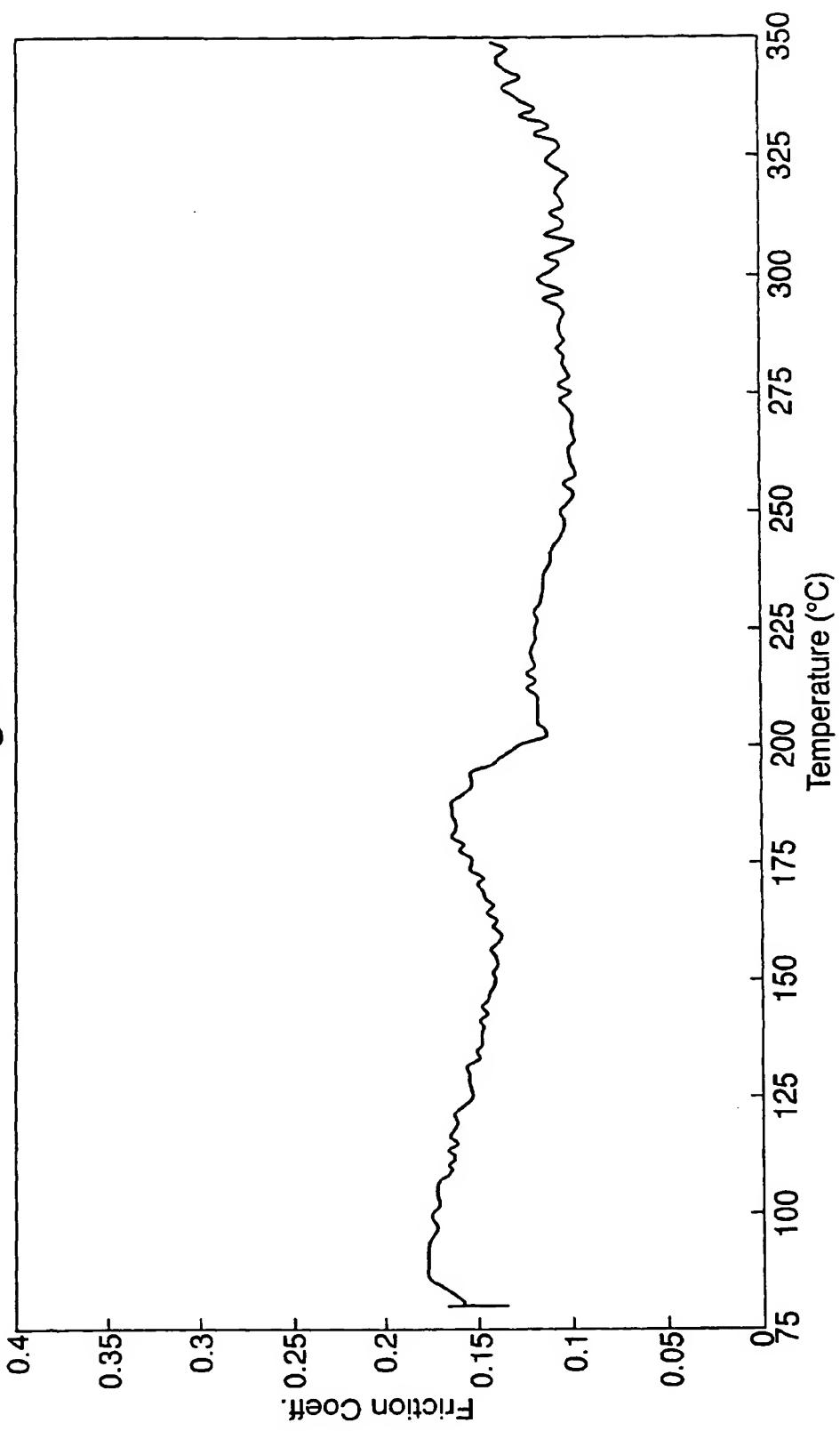
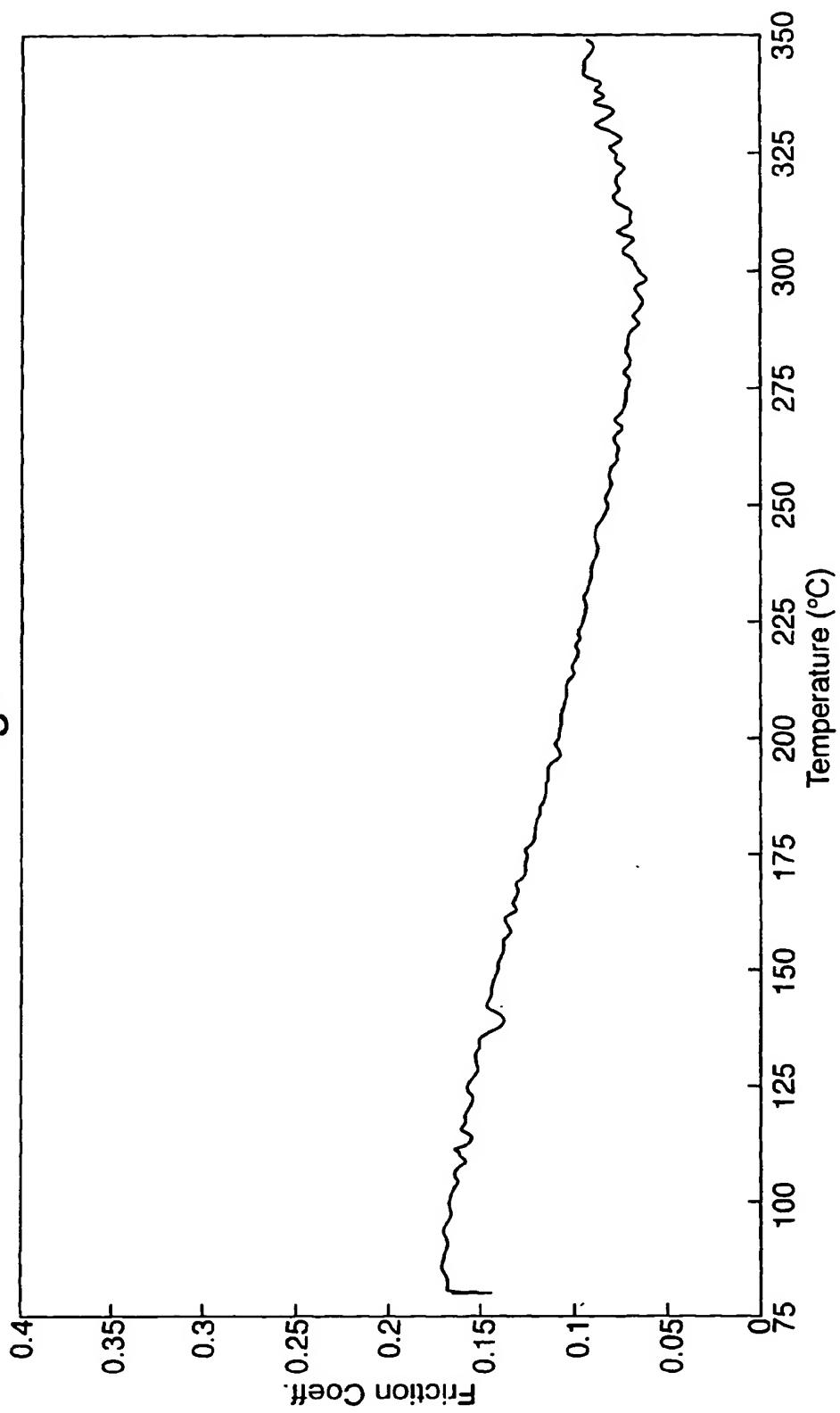


Fig.3.





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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims					
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner			
THE HAGUE	9 January 2002	Rotsaert, L			
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS					
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document					
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document					



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 01 20 3289

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X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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